

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 04251 281436Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 TRSE-00 LAB-04 /062 W  
-----290210Z 029157 /73

R 281315Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9696  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION USNATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 4251

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, BE  
SUBJECT: INITIAL ATTEMPT TO FORM NEW GOVERNMENT FAILS

REF: BRUSSELS 4125

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 04251 281436Z

1. FORMATEUR LEO TINDEMANS (REFTEL) WAS REBUFFED APRIL 27

IN HIS FIRST ATTEMPT TO DESIGN A NEW GOVERNMENT FOR BELGIUM  
WHEN THE SOCIALIST PARTY DECLINED HIS INVITATION TO ENTER  
NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TO THE FORMATION OF A THREE-PARTY  
COALITION WITH THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN AND LIBERAL PARTIES.

THE MESSAGE OF REJECTION CITED IMCOMPATIBILITY OF SOCIALIST POLICIES WITH THE CONSERVATIVE POSITIONS OF THE LIBERALS. SOCIALIST PARTY TEACTICIANS DELIBERATELY HIGHLIGHTED THOSE DIFFERENCES BY HANDING THE LIBERALS A POLICY QUESTIONNAIRE TOUCHING ON REGIONALIZATION, STRUCTURAL REFORM OF THE ECONOMY, PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENT FINANCES. THE LIBERALS DECLINED TO ANSWER.

2. TINDEMANS HAD PROPOSED THE FORMATION OF A BROAD COALITION OF THE THREE TRADITIONAL PARTIES CAPABLE OF DEALING PURPOSEFULLY WITH SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PROBLEMS. HE SAID WEDNESDAY NIGHT HE WOULD SLEEP ON THE PROBLEM BEFORE DECIDING ON HIS NEXT MOVE.

3. MEANWHILE, JEF HOUTHUYS, PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN TRADE UNION (CSC) DECLINED TO JOIN SOCIALIST UNION (FGTB) LEADER GEORGES DEBUNNE IN DRAFTING A "COMMON FRONT" POLICY PAPER WHICH WOULD MAKE ORGANIZED LABOR IN EFFECT AN INDEPENDENT PARTY TO THE NEGOTIATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT COALITION. HOUTHUYS TOLD HIS SOCILAIST COLLEAGUE THAT CSC WAS A LABOR ORGANIZATION, NOT A POLITICAL PARTY. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

4. COMMENT: THE FIRST ROUND IN WHAT COULD BE AN EXTENDED INTER-PARTY NEGOTIATION ENDED UNSURPRISINGLY, ALTHOUGH THE SOCIALIST PARTY, WITH FRANCOPHONE CO-PRESIDENT ANDRE COOLS CALLING THE SHOTS, WAS NOTABLY PROVOCATIVE IN SPURNING PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LIBERALS. PRESUMABLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 04251 281436Z

COOLS WISHES TO ACHIEVE AN IMPRESSION OF SOCIALISTS LEADING FROM STRENGTH IN MANEUVERING TOWARD A TWO-PARTY SOCIALIST-CHRISTIAN COALITION.RENNER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REFORM, COALITION GOVERNMENT, SOCIALISM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BRUSSE04251  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770149-0562  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770411/aaaaaitv.tel  
**Line Count:** 100  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 9f2f3e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BRUSSELS 4125  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2671207  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INITIAL ATTEMPT TO FORM NEW GOVERNMENT FAILS  
**TAGS:** PINT, BE, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9f2f3e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009